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REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-36 remain pending in this application for which applicant seeks reconsideration. The present reply does not contain any amendment.

Art Rejection

Claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Brooks (USP 6,008,809) in view of Matsumoto (USP 6,614,439). Applicant traverses this rejection because the combination, even if it were deemed proper for argument's sake, would not have taught the window control features set forth in independent claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 18; 19, 24, 27, and 32.

Independent claims 1, 9, and 17 call for storing selection history information for each of window display sections selected by a selecting section in a storage and changing the size of each of the window display sections based on the selection history information (e.g., an order of selections) stored in the storage, in response to selection of one of the window display sections. See page 20, lines 13-18, of the present disclosure.

Independent claims 5, 13, and 18 call for storing position information for each of a plurality of operation panel windows in a storage, changing the size of one of operation panel window display sections corresponding to the selected one of the window display sections, and calculating a display position of the corresponding operation panel window display section in accordance with the size changing of the selected one of the window display sections and the position information stored in the storage. These claims further call for displaying the size-changed operation panel window display section based on the calculated display position. See page 22, lines 1-21 and Fig. 3 of the present disclosure.

Independent claims 19 and 27 call for moving a selected one of the window display sections in the indicated direction of movement, and displaying the selected one of the window display sections at an enlarged size that is larger size than sizes of non-selected ones of the window display sections.

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Independent claims 24 and 32 call for displaying a plurality of operation panels each corresponding to one of window display sections. Each of the window display sections and a corresponding one of the operation panel window display sections are displayed separately from each other. At least one of the operation panel window display sections corresponding to the one of the window display sections other than the selected window display section is displayed, in a different display mode from a display mode in which the selected window display section is displayed. See Fig. 9 for example, where an operation panel window 53, 54, 55 corresponding to each of the display section 50, 51, 52 is displayed. The operation panel windows 54, 55 for the non-selected display sections 51, 52 are displayed differently from the operation panel window 53 corresponding to the selected display section 50.

Brooks discloses an apparatus/method for viewing multiple application windows 214 within a dynamic window 212. See Fig 2 and col. 1, lines 8-9. Once an application window is selected and dragged into the dynamic window (see Fig. 7), its dynamic windowing mechanism (128; Fig 2) dynamically sizes the window in proportion to other windows already located within the dynamic window. See Fig. 12 and col. 2, lines 22-27. Brooks repeats the process of selecting and dragging windows into the dynamic window until all desired windows are displayed within the dynamic window. As windows are dropped into the dynamic window (see Fig. 11), horizontal and vertical boundary lines (522, 524; Fig. 12) are created to separate the windows. The size of the windows within the dynamic window can be altered by manually manipulating the horizontal and vertical boundaries. See Figs. 13 and 15, and col. 2, lines 38-42. For example, Brook discloses dynamically expanding or reducing the size of the "Watermelon.doc" window 502 and the "Honeydew.dbf" window 504, by dragging and moving either the vertical or horizontal splitter 524, 522 in a path shown in phantom. See Figs. 13 and 15, and col. 10, lines 25-48.

Matsumoto discloses a multi-image display system for displaying on a single display device image data received from multiple image sources. When the resolution conversion action A400 has been activated by the manipulation of the display pointer 702, the display position and the size of the display window that is changed by the resolution conversion (enlargement) action

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are altered (i.e., display position information parameters for the input data to be enlarged are prepared (see S401; Fig. 10)). When the superposition condition occurs by the window resolution (enlargement) action, the priorities are reallocated so that the highest priority is allocated for the selected enlarged window and the priorities are sequentially lowered toward the rearmost window, while updating the priority history record (see S402; Fig. 10). When the enlarged window (see Fig. 11) hides an input window, the hidden window is given the lowest priority. The priorities are stored in the RAM of the control portion 500. See col. 11, line 55 - col. 12, line 5.

Regarding claims 1, 9, and 17, while Brooks discloses altering the size of windows within a dynamic window by manually selecting and dragging the windows into the dynamic window, as previously explained, Brooks does not teach or suggest changing the size of each of the window display sections based on the selection history information stored in the storage, in response to selection of one of the window display sections. The examiner, realizing Brooks' shortcomings, relied upon Matsumoto for the proposition that storing selection history information for each window display section would have been obvious. Applicant disagrees with this assessment.

Matsumoto teaches **reallocating the priorities** so that the highest priority is allocated for the selected enlarged window and sequentially lowering the priorities toward the rearmost window, while updating the priority history record, as explained previously. Matsumoto does not teach or suggest **changing the size of each** of the window display sections based on the selection history information stored in the storage. Accordingly, Matsumoto would not have alleviated Brooks' shortcomings acknowledged by the examiner.

Regarding claims 5, 13, and 18, the examiner alleges that Brooks teaches a plurality of operation panel window display sections that display a plurality of operation panel windows having operating buttons for operating the window display sections (e.g., an operation panel window display section 6 and 7; Fig 1). Applicant again disagrees with this assessment. Brooks merely discloses altering the size of the windows within the dynamic window by manually selecting and dragging the windows into the dynamic window. In contrast to the examiner's

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assertion, Brooks does not teach or suggests changing the size of one of the operation panel window display sections corresponding to the selected one of the window display sections, calculating a display position of the corresponding operation panel window display section in accordance with the size change **based on the position information stored in the storage**, and displaying the size-changed operation panel window display section based on the calculated display position, as set forth in claims 5, 13, and 18.

Matsumoto also would not have alleviated Brooks' shortcomings for the reasons explained previously. Accordingly, the combination would not have taught or suggested the size changing feature set forth based on the position information stored in the storage as set forth in claims 5, 13, and 18.

Regarding claims 19 and 27, the examiner acknowledges that Brooks fails to teach moving a selected one of the window display sections in the indicated direction of movement (e.g., short trajectory 37; Fig. 7). The examiner alleges, however, that Matsumoto teaches the above feature absent in Brooks, relying on the passage set forth in the paragraph bridging columns 11-12. Again, applicant disagrees with the examiner's assessment. In contrast to the examiner's assertion, the passage in question, as previously explained, merely discloses that when an image undergoes resolution conversion (enlargement) of the selected display section, a highest priority is allocated to the enlarged display section over the display sections that are hidden. Matsumoto fails to teach or suggest moving the selected one of the window display sections in the indicated direction of movement, as set forth in claims 19 and 27.

Regarding claims 24 and 32, the examiner acknowledges that Brooks and Matsumoto fail to teach providing a separate operation panel for each window, but takes Official Notice that windows with separate operating panels within a single display are well know and would have been obvious. Again, applicant disagrees with the examiner's assessment. Brooks discloses a display 500 that displays a tool bar having menus such as "file," "edit," "view," etc. See Figs. 5-20. Referring to Fig. 5, Brooks always displays only one tool bar even when more than one windows 502, 504, 506 are open. There simply would not have been any motivation for Brooks to include a plurality of tool bars, one for each window. Moreover, there would not have been

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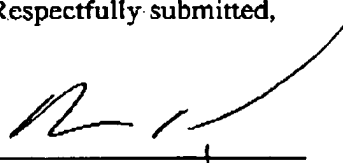
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any motivation for Brooks's tool bars to be displayed as a separate operation panel window separate from the respective display sections.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-36 patentably distinguish over the applied references and are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicant urges the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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